

Milwaukee County

Supervisor Johnny L. Thomas, 18th District

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COUNTY BOARD ACHIEVES AND WALKER TAKES CREDIT...AGAIN!

Sup. Thomas thanks County Executive for changing his position on summer youth employment

Milwaukee, WI – Last month, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution allocating \$150,000 to the Summer Youth Employment Program, which will provide part-time summer jobs to more than 300 young people from low-income families in Milwaukee County. The program will enrich the lives of these young people, keeping them on a positive path, promoting a good work ethic, and setting positive examples for others in their communities. One-third of the cost, \$50,000, would come from sources other than the property tax.

Supervisor Johnny L. Thomas, Vice-Chair of the County Board's Committee on Finance & Audit, was disappointed when County Executive Scott Walker vetoed the resolution. "For many of these youth, that veto, if sustained, would have removed any possibility of being employed this summer." Passing the buck, the County Executive, in his veto message, said, "This is a school function and should be entirely funded by MPS." Supervisor Thomas responded, "Of course, the total cost to taxpayers would likely be about the same, whether levied by Milwaukee County or by MPS."

That's why the County Board, including Supervisor Thomas, voted to stand its ground and override the veto. "Now, with the program a reality, it seems the County Executive has run to the front of the parade," Supervisor Thomas added. "He certainly has the right to change his mind. I am pleased that he has come around in his decision to support this important issue and sign the resolution allocating Milwaukee County's funds for the program."